

Groundwater Management Goals

State	Goal
Nevada	Perennial yield – only allowing appropriations, pumping, and usage that do not exceed the amount replenished by recharge
South Dakota	Except for public supplies in some geologic formations, annual groundwater withdrawals are not to exceed recharge .
Oklahoma	Groundwater subject to reasonable use regulation. Groundwater permits based on maximum annual yield of basin and % of overlying land. Maximum annual yield must ensure minimum basin life of 20 years.
New Mexico	New applicants in Declared Groundwater Basins must offset depletion (shown by hydrogeologic model) by purchasing valid existing rights. Local or regional planning is required.
Arizona	“Safe Yield” by 2025 in Active Management Areas (long term balance between annual withdrawals and natural and artificial recharge.)
Utah	No effect on existing appropriators.
Montana	Limitation if it is found that “any proposed use or well will impair or substantially interfere with existing rights to appropriate surface water or ground water.. ”
Oregon	In order to assure sustained supplies and protect important resources some basins are closed to new appropriation or restricted.
Wyoming	The appropriation, distribution and application to beneficial use of water as provided under the prior appropriation doctrine , and to maintain the flexibility within that framework to meet the changing needs of the citizens of Wyoming.
Washington	Where surface water and groundwater is connected, minimum flows established by rule are treated as appropriations and should be protected from impairment by any subsequent groundwater appropriation .
Idaho	Protect prior appropriators and “a reasonably safe supply” .
Kansas	“Public interest” includes safe yield of an area and the impact on prior appropriations . Safe yield limits total appropriations to a percentage of the estimated recharge to the aquifer within a certain radius of a well.
Colorado	New appropriations in “designated basins” not allowed unless the water is available for appropriation, the withdrawal will not cause unreasonable impairment to other vested water rights and the withdrawal is not unreasonably wasteful . Replacement water required for new depletions in “tributary areas”.
Texas	Groundwater is subject to the “rule of capture” by overlying landowner . Surface water permits may be denied if they adversely affect groundwater.
California	Groundwater is not subject to state regulation. Landowners can extract as much groundwater as they can put to beneficial use . Local control is encouraged.
Nebraska	Nebraska’s 23 natural resources districts are required to have groundwater management plans that contain management objectives, a proposed reservoir life goal , groundwater quality goals and solutions, and proposed controls.
Florida	Protection of the resource including wetlands and wildlife.
Minnesota	Protection of the resource including wetlands, wildlife, and calcareous fens.
Ontario	Permitting process requires addressing potential impact on water balance and sustainable yield as well as natural functions of ecosystem.
Iowa	Iowa considers all waters of the state (surface and ground) to be public waters, and has an allocation system based on beneficial use .
Missouri	All landowners touching or lying above water sources have a right to a reasonable use of those water resources. Mo DNR maintains a state water plan for a long-range, comprehensive statewide program for the use of sw and gw resources